



Mantua PTA Alert News September 20, 2011



Back-to-School Night

Thursday, Sept. 22 is Back-to-School night for 4th through 6th grades. Don't miss the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and learn more about Mantua and all it has to offer. Back-to-School night starts at 6:30 p.m. in the gym.

Entertainment Books and Sally Foster

The second part of Mantua's fall fundraiser starts this week! Sally Foster packets will be going home with your children on Tuesday, Sept. 20. Our first "turn in day" for Entertainment Book orders and returns is on Wednesday, Sept. 21. Bring any unsold books or money for selling books to the return table outside of the cafeteria before school Wednesday morning to get your prizes! Remember, if you sell a combined total of \$90 (or \$150 per family) for any Sally Foster or Entertainment Book order you will win a Golden Ticket to our Games to You party that will be held on Monday, Oct. 17, after school. There are many other fun prizes to win along the way. If you have any questions, please contact merifarling@hotmail.com. Thank you for your participation and for supporting the Mantua PTA!

Take Home Reading Volunteer Information Meeting

Volunteers interested in helping with the Take Home Reading Program (this is for K, 1, K/1 and 1/2 multi classes only) should come to the information meeting being held Friday Sept. 23, at 9:20 a.m. Amy Sheridan, Mantua's reading teacher, will be there to outline procedures for this important program. The meeting will be in the reading room, across from the library. Please contact Mary Townley at metownley@aol.com if you would like to volunteer.

Reminder: No Bus Passes Will be Allowed Through September

No student will be allowed to ride home on a bus other than his or her own through

September (i.e., no bus passes will be issued). Please note this is NOT a Mantua Elementary School policy. If you have questions, please contact FCPS Transportation Supervisor Cleora Alexander at: Cleora.Alexander@fcps.edu. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Starting in October, if your child is going home with a friend both parents must notify the office. If permission is not received by both parents then each child is to go to his/her normal destinations after school. Only under extreme circumstances will the office call for permission.

Parking in Horner Court Cul-de-sac

Be careful when parking at the school. Cars will be ticketed for parking in the fire lane (yellow curb area from the fire hydrant to corner) on the Horner Court cul-de-sac facing the school. Please do not park in this area. Some cars may park parallel past the yellow curb towards the first house. However, you must keep a good distance from the mailbox and driveway.

Shared Snacks/Party Treats Must be Nut-Free

Please bring nut-free snacks only in those cases where snacks are being shared with all classmates. If your child finds nut snacks to be the food of choice, they can bring it, but please have your child understand that is his or her snack only and cannot to be shared. At lunch there is a nut-free table system in place. In the classroom, it can be a bit more difficult to monitor. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Good Morning Mantua Training

For all GMM applicants who have not been trained, there is a second training session this Wednesday, Sept. 21, immediately after school in the Distance Learning Center. Training will end by 5 p.m. Students can be picked up at the front entrance.

Mantua Basketball 2011-12

It is that time of year again! We are really excited to start the 2011-12 Mantua Basketball season. You should have received the enrollment form that has all the details in last week's Tuesday folder. You also can download the [FORM](#) from the PTA website. Register early and save \$10. The fee is \$35 through the end of September. Beginning Oct. 1 the fee increases to \$45. If you have any questions

email Sam Mayes, league director, at MantuaBasketball@mantuapta.org.

Mantua Chess Club

If you have a child in grades 4-6 who is looking for a fun environment to learn the game of chess and/or improve their skills, then the Mantua Chess Club is for them! The club will run October through May and meet every Tuesday. If your child is interested in joining, please contact Lori Prendergast at loripren@yahoo.com, with the following information: student name, current grade, level (beginner, intermediate, etc.) and parent contact information. PLEASE NOTE: This is a parent volunteer assisted program, so we will need parents to help our wonderful teachers/coaches! If you are interested in volunteering, please attend a parents information meeting on Tuesday Oct. 4, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Reflections Art Program

Create a piece of art, literature, photography, music, film/video, dance/choreography to the 2011-12 theme: "DIVERSITY MEANS..." Entries will be due to the PTA on Friday, Oct. 28, by 4 p.m. (deposit entries in the designated box near the PTA mailbox in front office). Please refer to the official Reflections entry rules. Additional entry forms are available at the front table in the lobby. PLEASE BE SURE TO FOLLOW RULES exactly for entries or entry cannot be sent up to the district level. All participants will receive a ribbon. All forms required for entries and rules for each category can be found on the Mantua PTA website at <http://www.mantuapta.org/activities/reflections.php> Contact Jackie DeScisciolo at jdescisciolo@gmail.com with questions.

Mantua Turns 50!

Join your friends and Mantua family to help celebrate 50 years of education excellence with anniversary party on Oct. 15. The celebration will include live entertainment, rides and games for the kids, a marketplace, a museum of Mantua history and artifacts, a display by Bubba's Custom Cars of autos from every decade and food by Red, Hot and Blue.

Test your Mantua Elementary School knowledge.

This weeks 50th Trivia question:

Q: When was the first general meeting of the Mantua PTA?

See answer below.

Calling all Photographers

Mantua's 50th celebration being held Saturday, Oct. 15, needs to be documented! Do you love to take photos? We are asking any and all photographers who would be willing to spend sometime during the celebration to take pictures on behalf of the PTA to contact the 50th Committee at Mantua50th@hotmail.com to let us know!

Please Curb Your Dog

Although there are signs around the school property indicating dogs are not allowed, this rule is not always followed. Worse, however, is that these pets are leaving little "gifts" that the Mantua Elementary School custodial staff has to then clean up. Please be sure to curb your dog.

FLEX 2011-12 (Foreign Language Experience) Registration Underway

The Mantua PTA, in conjunction with FCPS, is pleased to offer a foreign language program before and after school. Languages will be taught through conversation using games, songs, drama, drills, dialogues, maps and culturally-related activities. Please sign up at www.fcps.edu/aceclasses. Click on ONLINE BROWSE/REGISTER, choose KIDS/TEENS, choose LANGUAGES. You also can search for a class by course number. Registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 30. Classes, which begin the week of Oct. 10, run for 15 weeks. Confirmation and room assignments will be sent out one week prior to start of classes. Flex classes for K-1 will be offered in the spring. Tuition is \$169. Contact Deirdre Mayes at deirdre.mayes@mayes.net or 703-477-8208 with questions.

CLASS*	COURSE	SECTION #	DAY / TIME
GRADES			
German 1 2-6	FPO6115	0001	Tues. 8-9 a.m.
French 1 3-6	FPO5115	0004	Wed. 8-9 a.m.
Spanish 1 2-6	FPO8115	0002	Wed. 8-9 a.m.
Sign Lang. 1 2-6	FPO3115	0001	Thurs. 3:55-4:55 p.m.
Chinese level 3 1-6	FPO7704	0001	Fri. 3:55 - 4:55 p.m.

Chinese is for native speakers or children who have completed a Level 2 Flex Chinese course.

* Class Size: 8 to 15 students.

Advertise in Mantua Elementary School PTA Student Directory

The Mantua student directory currently is accepting advertisements for its 2011-12 edition. Ads are due Oct. 7. The back cover will be awarded via an auction to the highest bidder. Ad space is available for as low as \$30, so there are no excuses not to support your Mantua PTA and advertise your business! Informational letter can be found [HERE](#). Go to the [ORDER FORM](#) to get pricing and to place an ad. Contact Monika Brenner at monika.brenner@dhs.gov, 202-325-0038 (day); or 703-385-2516 (evening) to advertise or for more information.

Creating/Accessing FCPS Blackboard Accounts

If you are not familiar with Blackboard, it's a great way learn more about your children's classes, assignments, information and announcements. In order to see your children's Blackboard information you must first set up an account through Parent View. Once you receive confirmation of the account you need to bring that information along with a photo ID to the front office of your child's school to receive access.

You must use the same address and phone number that your child's school has on file in order to get a confirmation number. This account will give you viewing access to ALL of your children's Blackboard accounts as long as you enter them during the initial registration. Parents should use their parent accounts, not their children's to view class information. Click on the following links to learn how to create a parent account, use it, add children if you've done it in the past, and update your emergency care information. Information also can be found at

<http://www.fcps.edu/MantuaES/parents/parenthome.html>

Go [HERE](#) to learn how to create a parent account. Go [HERE](#) to get started. Go [HERE](#) for information on how to use Parent View. Go [HERE](#) to add a child to your account.

School Picture Day is Sept. 28

School photos will be taken on Wednesday, Sept. 28, in the gym. An order form will be sent home in your child's Tuesday folder. You can also find it [HERE](#).

FUNGI Award

You won't want to miss the next PTA meeting to see who the monthly recipient of the Fungi award is! Our September "fun guys" are Kathleen DeCarlo and Meri Farling for all their hard work in making the 50th celebration really fun! If you don't know what a Fungi award is, come and find out!

Important Upcoming Events

Thurs. Sept. 22: Back-to-School Night for 4th-6th grades, 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 28: Picture Day

Attention all PTA Members

There is an upcoming vote on three Preliminary Legislation Program items (PLP) for the Virginia PTA. A description of these issues can be found on the Mantua PTA website. Please take a moment to review the issues. Next week's Alert News will detail the options for casting a ballot.

Get Ready for Worldwide Day of Play

Saturday, Sept. 24, is Nickelodeon's Worldwide Day of Play! On this day all Nickelodeon channels will suspend programming and go dark for three hours so your family has an opportunity to go out and play! Thousands of schools and community organizations around the world will be hosting events that engage children in physical fitness. In our area, Nickelodeon invites you and your family to play on the Ellipse from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To learn more about what activities and guests will be attending go to [Worldwide Day of Play](#).

Trivia Answer

Mantua's first PTA meeting was held on Sept. 18, 1961.

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org.

Submissions MUST be received by the Friday before distribution in order to be included.

如果您需要一份中文的曼图亚小学校园新闻周刊，请联系雷晓春女士。电话：703-425-1097

电子信箱 : sabrina.lei@yahoo.com

한국어로번역된뉴스를받아보시기원하시는분은 크리스티씨께연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 choichristie@yahoo.com.

Nếu quý vị muốn nhận tin tức "the Alert News" được dịch ra tiếng Việt , xin liên lạc sonha60@hotmail.com

Si desea recibir una copia de esta informacion en Espanol, porfavor llame Gabriella Numbela a 703-573-6375 or e-mail a ganumbela@hotmail.com.

For more information, please visit our website:

www.MantuaPTA.org

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

